

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 EB-11 FEA-02

CPR-02 INT-08 DRC-01 /189 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2929

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR US

SUBJ: 27TH MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE
HOST COUNTRY

SUMMARY- COMITE MET AFTERNOON OF FEB 28 TO DISCUSS PROBLEM
DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK ARE ENCOUNTERING IN OBTAINING GASOLINE
AND WAYS TO SOLVE PROBLEM. IT WAS AGREED THAT UNSECT WLD
PREPARE FEASIBILITY STUDY AND REPORT BACK TO COMITE FOR MEETING ON
MARCH 14.

1. MEETING OPENED WITH STATEMENT BY CYRIL LOVITT (UK)
WHO EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT MIGHT BE PREMATURE TO CONSIDER GAS
PROBLEM AND STATED SUFFICIENT TIME SHLD BE ALLOWED FOR RECENTLY
ENACTED NY STATE MANDATORY LEGISLATION TO WORK. AMB DE PINIES (SPAIN)
COMPLAINED ABOUT ODD/EVEN SYSTEM, FACT THAT GAS STATIONS
DID NOT TOP OFF TANKS AND PROBLEM OF RUNNING OUT OF GAS
AFTER A TRIP TO JFK AIRPORT. HE REQUESTED STUDY BE MADE BY SECT OF
SITUATION IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT A PERMANENT SOLUTION TO PROBLEM.
SCALABRE (FRANCE) AGREED THAT STUDY SHLD BE UNDERTAKEN AND
SUGGESTED THAT A GAS DISPENSING SYSTEM MIGHT BE INSTALLED ON UN.
PREMISES. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT SITUATION DURING SPECIAL G.A.
KOUAME (IVORY COAST) DISAGREED WITH LOVITT (UK). HE

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COMPLAINED THAT \$3.00'S WORTH OF GAS WLD TAKE HIM TO BRIDGE

BUT NOT JFK AIRPORT. BARISH (COSTA RICA) FELT WHOLE SITUATION CAUSED GREAT INCONVENIENCE, PARTICULARLY SINCE SHE TRAVELED OVER 44 MILES A DAY TO AND FROM HER OFFICE. SHE SUGGESTED HAVING A FILLING STATION IN UN. BLDG. GHELEV (BULGARIA) COMPLAINED OF THREE MONTHS OF HARDSHIP AND REQUESTED A PROPOSAL BE PUT FORWARD BY HOST COUNTRY. SERGEY SMIRNOV (USSR) COMPLAINED MANY MEMBERS SOVIET MISSION WERE FORCED SPEND HOURS ON GAS LINES. HE BELIEVED EXCEPTIONS TO LAW SHOULD BE GRANTED U.N. MISSIONS AND SECT. HE FELT HOST COUNTRY HAD ALREADY HAD ENOUGH TIME TO TAKE ACTION. HE SUGGESTED OPENING OF FILLING STATION FOR U.N. PERSONNEL MIGHT PROVIDE ANSWER TO PROBLEM. MALTESE REP EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER LONG HOURS SPENT BY STAFF OF SMALL MISSIONS ON GAS LINE AND ASKED FOR EARLY SOLUTION TO PROBLEM. MAKAREVITCH (UKRAINE) REFERRED TO MICHAEL BERLIN ARTICLE IN N.Y. POST OF FEB 23 ON DIPLOMATIC GAS PROBLEM AND IN PARTICULAR TO PARAGRAPH WHICH STATED AMERICAN DIPLOMATS USED GSA PUMPS. HE COMMENTED THAT THOSE WITH PLENTY OF FOOD HAVE NO FEELING FOR THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY. AMB SCHAUFELLE (US) DENIED THAT USUN STAFF USED GSA PUMPS AND SAID U.S. DIPLOMATS GOT IN LINE LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE. HE WELCOMED RESPONSIBLE STATEMENTS MADE ABOUT PROBLEM AND SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY WILLINGNESS OF SECT TO STUDY POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS. EXPRESSED REGRET OVER INCONVENIENCES CAUSED DIPLOMATS JUST AS HE REGRETTED FACT THAT MEDICAL PROFESSION WAS BEING INCONVENIENCED AND PERSONAL INCONVENIENCE CAUSED WHEN HE AROSE AT 6:00 A.M. TO GET ON GAS LINE. HE REFERRED TO EDITORIAL IN SUBURBAN NEWSPAPER ABOUT GAS PROBLEM OF DIPLOMATS AND QUOTED "HOSTS HAVE OBLIGATIONS-BUT SO DO GUESTS. WHEN A HOST COUNTRY IS EXPERIENCING A CASE OF SHORTS, AS IS U.S. WITH PETROL, A GRACIOUS GUEST QUIETLY SHARES INCONVENIENCE." HE ADDED, TO FORESTALL CHARGE THAT EDITORIAL WAS ANTI-DIPLOMAT, THAT EDITORIAL WENT ON TO CRITICIZE U.S.G. SEVERELY FOR NOT HAVING DEALT WITH GAS SHORTAGE MORE IMAGINATIVELY. HE REFERRED TO NEW MANDATORY LEGISLATION AND STATED HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY INITIAL REPORTS THAT GAS LINES WERE SHORTER AND TEMPERatures LONGER. HE SAID U.S. WOULD STUDY WITH CARE AND INTEREST FEASIBILITY REPORT TO BE PREPARED BY SECT AND WHICH WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OFFICIAL

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DUTIES WHICH EACH MISSION TO U.N. MUST UNDERTAKE IN CARRYING OUT ITS TASKS. FURTHER, HE ASSURED COMITE THAT U.S. WOULD COOPERATE TO EXTENT POSSIBLE IN EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A REASONABLE PLAN TO MEET OFFICIAL REPEAT OFFICIAL NEEDS FOR GAS OF U.N. DELEGATION. OZGUR (CYPRUS) SUGGESTED THAT IN ORDER MEET PROBLEM NOW, HOST COUNTRY CONSIDER ALLOWING MISSIONS GET REASONABLE AMOUNT OF GAS FROM U.S. GOVT PUMPS AND REQUESTED THAT THIS ALTERNATIVE BE STUDIED. AMB SCHAUFELLE

(US) STATED U.S. HAD ALREADY SAID IT WAS PREPARED COOPERATE, AND HE REITERATED OFFER. HE STRESSED THAT ANY SOLUTION WLD HAVE TO BE UNDER U.N. AEGIS AND BE LIMITED TO OFFICIAL NEEDS.

WITH REGARD TO CYPRIOT PROPOSAL, HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER REACTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS IF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS WERE GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION AT U.S.G. PUMPS. BAROODY (SAUDI ARABIA) MADE RAMBLING STATEMENT CONCLUDING WITH IDEA THAT TANKER ON U.N. GROUNDS PROVIDE GAS TO DPL CARS AND SUGGESTING THAT THREE OR FOUR OIL COMPANIES BE INVITED TO CONSIDER PROBLEM. TIMBRELL (UNSECT) SAID SECT WAS PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE FEASIBILITY STUDY WHICH WLD REQUIRE TWO WEEK TO COMPLETE. GHELEV (BULGARIA) PROPOSED THAT AT NEXT MEETING SHORT AND LONG TERM PROPOSALS SHLD BE MADE. AMB SCHAUFLE (US) EXPRESSED HOPE BULGARIAN REP WOULDN'T GET HIS HOPES UP TOO HIGH FOR SHORT TERM SOLUTION.
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